

Ruston
10/743,183

REMARKS

The undersigned requests a personal interview with the Examiner in charge of this application to discuss the issues raised below.

Claims 1-4 and 10-14 were rejected as failing to comply with par. one of Sec. 112 on the grounds that the claims imply the existence of four panels. The claims have been amended to eliminate this ambiguity. Claim 2 has been canceled.

Claims 1-4 and 10-14 were rejected as being indefinite by omitting essential elements of the bag, ie, having "a gap between the necessary structural connections". The present amendment hopefully completes all the necessary connections.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected as being unpatentable over Klar 20040071830 in view of Loeschner DE003826911.

Claims 3, 4, and 10-12 were rejected as being unpatentable over the above references and further in view of Orchard 2,491,929.

Claims 13 and 14 were rejected as being unpatentable over all of the above references and further in view of Drake 5,322,700.

Klar discloses an infusion bag with a string to cause rolling up of the top of the bag with the opening. In the present invention, there are a pair of diagonal fold lines for the top corners and a horizontal fold line for a second fold. This is not taught or suggested in this reference.

In the German reference (Loeschner) is shown an infusion bag with a fold on the top and a string which goes around the bag to wring out the bag, as described in the abstract. The reference was cited for a third loop.

Orchard has a carrier bag and was cited for apertures through which a string passes. It is not clear how the teachings of this reference can be incorporated into the primary reference.

Drake shows a tea bag and was cited for the diagonal fold lines.

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In the present invention, with the combination of loops, apertures, and a string passing through all of the preceding, by pulling the string at the ends, the corners first fold along the diagonal fold lines, then fold up along the horizontal fold lines, and finally the corner flaps are cinched when the three loops come together (see page 24, first paragraph). The arrangement to accomplish this is not taught or suggested in any of the references cited nor in any combination of the references.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite all of the above mentioned features of this invention.

The remaining depending claims have been amended or canceled as appropriate to recite additional details of this invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims in their present form clearly distinguish over the art cited in the rejection and should be allowed.

A conscientious effort has been made to place this application in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned or Mr. Kroll if further changes are required to obtain allowance of the application.

A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U. S.
Patent and Trademark Office, telephone number 571-272-8300 on April 7, 2006.



Leonard Belkin